

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 11 and 13 are requested to be canceled.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 10, and 12 are currently being amended.

Claims 15-19 are being added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1, 4-6, 9, 10, 12 and 14-19 are now pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Zapawa (U.S. Patent No. 4,611,375) in view of Park et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,464,145). In view of the amendments to independent claims 1 and 10 and for at least the reasons set forth herein, this rejection has been traversed.

Zapawa and Park do not disclose, teach or suggest the invention as recited in the amended independent claims 1 and 10. Specifically, neither of these references discloses, teaches or suggests hollow headers mounting being carried out by holding an outer wall of the headers by a first portion of the header clamping member and an inner wall of the headers by a second portion of the header clamping member, the second portion being inserted into openings of the headers. Using the claimed invention, the headers can be held in the accurately positioned state. Even the combination of Zapawa and Park, assuming they could be combined, does not reach the claimed invention. In view of the foregoing, this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 5-9 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Zapawa and Park in further view of Makino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,095,239). Claim 5 has been amended to recite the feature of the invention as described above with respect to claim 1. Zapawa and Park fail to disclose, teach or suggest this feature of the claimed invention, as does Makino. Accordingly, this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) also should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim 12 has also been amended in a manner similar to claims 1, 5 and 10 and is also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Claims 15 and 16 depend from amended claims 5 and 12, respectively, and are also believed to be patentable over the cited references.

Claims 17-19 have been newly added to further define the invention.


Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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